GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2926
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2003
PRICES OF OILS
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an abnormal spurt in the prices of all edible oils during the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total acreage of land under cultivation for oil seeds at present, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to bring more land under cultivation for growing more oil seeds to bring down the prices of oils in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): No, Sir. However, the prices of some of the edible oils have been fluctuating slightly due to interplay of domestic as well as international market forces.

(c): State-wise area under Oilseeds cultivation during 2002-03 is given in the Annexure enclosed.

(d): In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 28 states. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided for various inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture, micro nutrients etc. in order to motivate the farmers to take up cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale. Further, in order to transfer the improved production and Plant Protection technologies to the farmers` field, frontline demonstrations by ICAR and blockdemonstrations by the States are also organised.

ANNEXURE

STATE-WISE AREA UNDER OILSEED CULTIVATION DURING 2002-03 (IVTH ADVANCE ESTIMATES)

STATE	AREA (IN 000 HECTARE)
Andhra Pradesh	2321
Assam	331
Bihar	288
Chhatisgarh	295
Gujarat	2717
Haryana	658
Himachal Pradesh	11
Jammu & Kashmir	100
Jharkhand	62
Karnataka	2073
Kerala	8
Madhya Pradesh	4806
Maharashtra	2537
Orissa	349
Punjab	125
Rajasthan	2326
Tamil Nadu	902
Uttar Pradesh	911
Uttaranchal	32
West Bengal	556
Others	86
All India	21497